

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Utilities

State House, Boston 33

January 5, 1959

To the Local Authorities Serviced by the Eastern Mass. Street Railway Company

Because of the large number of inquiries which the Department has received from local authorities relative to their powers and responsibilities during the current bus strike and because of the widespread confusion relating to methods of getting pupils to and from school, we are bringing the following information to your attention.

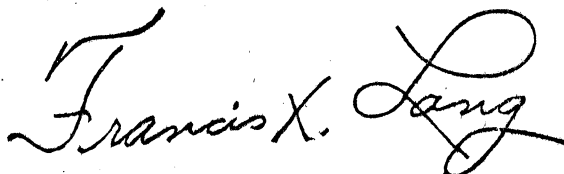
Action in the current case rests entirely with the local authorities. The school boards have the right to make contracts with independent bus operators to supply transportation for the school pupils.

Legal authorities have ruled that the school bus contracts would have expired normally on January 1, 1959 and that as a result of the strike the contracts were automatically cancelled because of non-performance.

It should be brought to your attention that any bus operator carrying pupils for a fare who permits other than a pupil to ride on the school buses would be in illegal operation and subject to penalty.

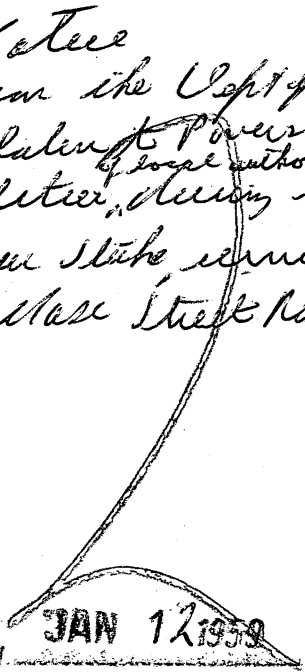
It is only when a bus is operated exclusively for school purposes with money paid out of municipal funds that no special license or permit is required from the State Department of Public Utilities. If fares are collected from sources other than municipal funds, then a common carrier's certificate must be obtained from the State Department of Public Utilities.

This is the only control that the State has. Under the Clichter Law the State is forbidden to take over a railroad, street railway or bus company during a strike.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis X. Lang". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered on the page.

FRANCIS X. LANG
Chairman

Notes
received from the Dept of Public
Utilities relating to Power and
responsibilities, ^{of some authorities} during the
current Bus strike, reviewed by
the Eastern Mass Street Railway
Company.



JAN 12 1959
City Council

PLACED ON FILE

Frederick H. [unclear]